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CURRENT LITERATURE.

Minor Notices.

MR. H. L. RUSSELL conducted a series of experiments in the winter of 1888-'89 to determine the character of bacteria in the ice of Lake Mendota, at Madison, Wis. From his paper¹ we learn that no pathological germs were present; that the freezing destroys about sixty per cent. as compared with the number found in the water; and that no relation exists between the number of germs in clear ice and snow-ice, in some cases a larger number being found in clear transparent ice than was found in any sample of snow-ice. The experiments are to be continued this winter.

MR. TH. HOLM describes² the mode of propagation of *Hydrocotyle Americana* by tuberiferous stolons, and gives an account of their structure, with references to the descriptive works where this mode of propagation is either not noticed or barely hinted at. Curiously, however, he fails to notice that in Coulter and Rose's Revision of the Umbelliferae the occurrence of these tubers is made a specific character. The plates which accompany his paper are excellent. We hope he will carry out his intention of recording more such "notes."

IN THE *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.* for 1889, Mr. A. B. Seymour prints a list of the fungi which he collected along the line of the N. P. R. R. at various points in 1884. One new species is described, *Uromyces Alopecuri*, on *Alopecurus geniculatus*, var. *aristatus* at Brainerd, Minn., and one new variety, *Sorosporium Ellisii*, var. *occidentalis*, on *Andropogon furcatus* at Bismarck, Dak.

NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. J. H. WAKKER, of Utrecht, has been appointed professor of botany at the dairy school at Oudshoorn, Holland.

DR. F. NOLL, assistant at Würzburg under Prof. Sachs, has been called to a professorship of botany at the University of Bonn.

DR. G. VON LAGERHEIM, attaché of the botanical laboratory of the University of Lisbon, has been called to the professorship of botany in the University of Quito.

THE GREAT book establishment of F. A. Brockhaus, in Leipzig, has issued its 1889 catalogue of second-hand botanical works. It is a classified list of over 3,400 titles, issued in four parts, which will be sent free upon request.

¹ Preliminary observations on the bacteria of ice from Lake Mendota, Madison, Wis. Reprinted from *Medical News*, August 17, 1889. Repaged. pp. 15.

² Notes on *Hydrocotyle Americana*.—Extracted from *Proc. Nat. Museum*, xi. pp. 455-462, pl. xvi and xvii.